



## MONTANA STATE HOSPITAL POLICY AND PROCEDURE

### TUBERCULOSIS SURVEILLANCE FOR PATIENTS

**Effective Date:** March 31, 2003

**Policy #:** IC-16

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- I. PURPOSE:** To provide guidelines for tuberculosis surveillance.
- II. POLICY:** To ensure admission screening and yearly surveillance of patients at Montana State Hospital (MSH).
- III. DEFINITIONS:**
  - A. PPD – Tuberculin Purified Protein Derivative
- IV. RESPONSIBILITIES:**
  - A. RN or LPN is responsible for administering PPD on admission unless contraindicated.
  - B. RN or LPN is responsible for follow-up reading of PPD 48-72 hours after admission and documentation of results on the immunization record.
  - C. Staff Physician or designee is responsible for reviewing PPD skin test status at time of annual physical and ordering appropriate surveillance.
- V. PROCEDURE:**
  - A. ADMISSIONS
    - 1. Every patient will have a tuberculosis skin test using five (5) tuberculin units (TU) of PPD (0.1 ml) unless contraindicated. This may be omitted if patient presents with documentation of a tuberculosis skin test result within the past 90 days. Each patient will also be asked if he/she has ever had a BCG inoculation.
    - 2. The tuberculosis skin test is contraindicated if the patient gives a reliable history of a previous positive test or is unable or unwilling to give a reliable history for mental or physical reason.
    - 3. A chest x-ray will be ordered on any patient with an ongoing contraindication to PPD testing as deemed appropriate by a staff medical physician. Generally, if a patient has had a negative chest x-ray within the past three years, it need not be repeated.

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4. Patients who are at high risk for tuberculosis because of immunodeficiency will have a chest x-ray ordered as well as a tuberculosis skin test.

#### B. TUBERCULOSIS SURVEILLANCE

1. All patients who have been continuously at MSH for one year and have no contraindications will have a tuberculosis skin test repeated at the time of their annual physical examination.
2. Patients with a previously positive tuberculosis skin test must have documentation of a negative chest x-ray within the past three (3) years or a chest x-ray will be ordered.
3. Patients who have known exposure to active tuberculosis will have a tuberculosis skin test six weeks after the exposure.

**VI. REFERENCES:** None

**VII. COLLABORATED WITH:** Director of Nursing Services, Infection Control Nurse

**VIII. RESCISSIONS:** Policy # IC-16, *Tuberculosis Surveillance for Patients of Montana State Hospital* dated February 14, 2000; HOPP #IC-02-96-R, *Tuberculosis Surveillance for Patients of Montana State Hospital*, dated November 14, 1996.

**IX. DISTRIBUTION:** All hospital policy manuals.

**X. REVIEW AND REISSUE DATE:** March 2006

**XI. FOLLOW-UP RESPONSIBILITY:** Chairperson of the Infection Control Coordinating Group

**XII. ATTACHMENTS:** None

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Ed Amberg  
Hospital Administrator

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Medical Director

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